

**Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the attached one page abstract at the end of the application. (see attached abstract)

Please replace the following header immediately prior to line 1 on page 1 as follows:

**Description**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**1. Technical Field**

Please replace the following header immediately prior to line 5 on page 1 as follows:

**2. Related Art**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 23 on page 3 and ending at line 1 of page 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is the object of the invention, therefore, to ~~invent~~ provide a guide element whose guide surfaces, disposed in several non-parallel planes, can receive a sliding coating in a simple way.

Please insert the following header immediately prior to line 2 on page 4 as follows:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 5 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Preferable, the sliding material ~~consists~~ comprises a copper-tin alloy, where it would be advantageous if the copper-tin alloy contains polytetrafluor ethylene (PTFE) and/or graphite as the solid lubricant. In general, a self-lubricating composite sliding material is provided by the highly resistant steel body with a bronze matrix ensuring low abrasion with its homogeneous solid lubricant dispersion, which is extremely suitable for

**Appln. No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED**  
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

the guide elements. The solid lubricant can be finely dispersed or it can be present as agglomerated particles, and it is characterized by a laminar structure as well as low interfacial resistance between opposing molecular boundaries.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 10 on page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The method for the production of a guide element includes ~~consists of~~ pre-fabricating a sliding strip consisting of a carrier material and a sliding material placed thereon, and then applying the strip(s) to the guiding surfaces by means of laser welding.

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 1 on page 7 as follows:

**THE DRAWINGS**

Please replace the following paragraph beginning at line 1 on page 7 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Embodiment examples of the invention are explained below in reference to the drawings, wherein:

Please insert the following heading immediately prior to line 12 on page 7 as follows:

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

Please delete page 11 in its entirety.

Please replace the heading on line 1 of page 12 with as follows:

**Patent Claims**

**What is claimed is:**